A

LETTER

FROM

1061. h. 29.
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A VETERAN,

TO THE

OFFICERS OF THE ARMY

ENCAMPED

AT BOSTON.

AMERICA:

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BRITISH MUSEUM

A LETTER, &c.

Gentlemen,

THE Diſpute between the Parent Country, and her Colonies, grows every Hour, more ſerious, advances rapidly to a Deciſion, and according to the miſerable, and inveterate Frailty of our boaſted Species, will ſoon devolve to us.

OLD as the World is, it is yet, I believe, too young, to have furniſhed a ſingle Inſtance of ſuch a Diſpute, in any Country but this. There are ſtill, ſome Nations left, thank God, that enjoy the Bleſſings of Liberty, and know the Value of it, as well perhaps, as an *American*. But I am much miſtaken, if it would not puzzle the Underſtanding of the moſt ingenious Inhabitant of *Bern*, or of *Amſterdam*, to comprehend the Subject of it.

IF he could read the News-Papers, Reſolves, *&c.* which ſtun us every Hour, with the Cry of Slavery, the repeated Advice to the Publick, hawked about, at Noon Day, ſubverſive of every Thing, publick and private, of every Law, human and divine; he would be at a Loſs, how to reconcile Oppreſſion, with ſuch unbounded Licence of the Preſs; and would laugh at the Charge, as ſomething much more than a Paradox, as a palpable Contradiction.

IF the Indulgence, and Forbearance, of the Parent Country, after the higheſt, and the moſt repeated Provocations, could be expreſſed to him, by the Words of any Language on the Globe, he would probably confeſs, that in the Courſe of his Reading and Obſervation, even in his Knowledge of the domeſtick Life of his modeſt and virtuous fellow Citizens, he had never met with an Example of ſo much Goodneſs, on one Part, and of ſo much Infatuation on the other.

The Eloquence of Town-Meetings, the Chicanery of the Bar, the Caſuiſtry of the Pulpit, the Pomp of Reſolves, and the Dreams of recluſe Men, unpractiſed in the Buſineſs of the World, have been long oppoſed, by the Example of Hiſtory, the concurrent Opinions of all Nations and Ages, by eſtabliſhed Maxims of Government, as old as Government itſelf, and by the venerable Authority of the Laws, but have been oppoſed in vain. Human Nature, makes a ridiculous, or an odious Figure, when the Plaintiffs, or the Defendants of contending Parties, ſtand convicted of Folly or of Knavery; altho' when it happens to be the Caſe of whole Nations, "the Infamy "of every Body, becomes the Infamy of no Body:" Yet to the Eyes of a By-ſtander, it is the Completion of Folly, or of Iniquity.

When Men are called upon, to explain the Reaſons of their Conduct, and are aſhamed to avow the true Reaſons, they have Recourſe to Subterfuges which would diſgrace the Underſtanding of a School Boy, when he plays Truant.

The intellectual Powers, like the Limbs of the Body, require conſtant Exerciſe, to improve and invigorate them. Excepting the mere unprincipled Rabble, which diſgrace every Country, nine tenths of the World, are a plain, undeſigning, inoffenſive People, who have other, and better Things to do, than to perplex themſelves with the Subtilties of Metaphyſicians, or the Cavils of Schoolmen; they have their honeſt, and uſeful Callings to mind, themſelves and their Families to feed, and to clothe. Left in their own Walks of Life, they are perhaps, the happieſt of all Mortals. But at any unuſual Noiſe or Appearance, they lift up their harmleſs Faces, liſten, gaze, and follow the firſt Bell-weather that takes the lead, thro' Water, thro' Fire, down Precipices to Perdition.

NINE Tenths of the Reſt, I am afraid, are moſt eplorably corrupt and wicked; theſe are the Men, who if they could be affraid of God, would tremble when they recollect, that they alone are the Authors of a Diſpute, which may prove fatal to their Country.

WE have been, many of us, Spectators of this Diſpute, and to the immortal Honour of the Lenity of the *Engliſh* Government, and of the Servants of the Crown, we have been, thank God, inactive Spectators of its Riſe, Progreſs, and Maturity. Had it any other real Foundation, than in the Intereſts of a contraband Trade, and the Jealouſy of an *Eaſt India* Monopoly? Let us call upon the intelligent Inhabitants of every trading Town on this Continent; let them deny the Charge. Their Clerks, their Apprentices, the very Boys of their Stores, and their Shops, know better.

THERE are ſome Men, ſtill left, of the Number. The Virtuous few, of great Abilities, of unqueſtionable Truth, Probity, and Honour, and few as they may be, equal at leaſt, in Proportion to any Country, we have ever known. Theſe Men are in earneſt, are conſcious of the pureſt Motives, and of no other; and are entitled, however they may differ from us, in their Opinions, to the Love and Veneration of all. But they are ſtill Men, and ſubject, like the beſt of their fellow Creatures, to Error. Great Characters are ſeldom found, great Actions are never atchieved, without ſome Degree of Enthuſiaſm. An enthuſiaſtick Purſuit of unattainable Wiſdom, or impracticable Piety, may be ſometimes ridiculous, but is never odious. We revere the Memories of a *Paſchal*, a *Fenelon*, a *Boyle*, or a *Littleton*, even the Hero of *Cervantes*, is a very amiable Cavalier; we laugh, but with no Mixture of Scorn, we lament, that his Means were unequal to his Ends; and that his generous and benevolent Attempts, were beyond

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the Reach of human Wiſdom, or human Power to accompliſh. There are *New Lights* in Politicks, as well, as in Religion; and in Spite of Prejudice, the ſincere Profeſſors of ſuch Doctrines, are far from being on common Occaſions, the worſt Members of Society. If the ſame Senſibility, and the ſame Paſſion for Virtue, pervaded the whole Maſs of Mankind, that by long and ſad Experience, is known to have been ever the Portion only of a few, this bad World, would be a *New Jeruſalem*. Until that happens, in Pity to the Frailties and Impurities of their Neighbours, it is much ſafer to leave the World to go on in its ordinary Courſe. Attempts to ſubvert Eſtabliſhments in Religion, or Government, in order to ſubſtitute new Modes in their Place, are always dangerous, generally unſucceſsful, and in the Eye of Man at leaſt, highly criminal; unleſs where the Abſurdity, Uſurpation, and Oppreſſion, is palpable and notorious.

If certain Doctrines, which will remain controvertible forever, were to be applied, like different Medicines, to different Conſtitutions, with a proper Diſcrimination of Men and Times, they might have the ſame ſalutary Effects. If a certain Set of our brother Officers, of every Nation among us, whom we have known both at home and abroad, inſtead of thumbing *Millan*'s Liſt, D. B. and the Sofa, were now and then, to turn over a Leaf or two of *Harrington* or *Locke*, it would not be amiſs. Some ſmall Infuſion of their generous Principles, would teach them the Rights and Privileges of their fellow Subjects, of which upon ſome Occaſions, they do not appear to have the moſt accurate Ideas; and might leſſen the humbling Diſparity between a ſheepiſh defenceleſs Citizen, and a Soldier, ſkilled in his Art, and armed at all Points for War.

Regular, exact Subordination, and prompt implicit Obedience to all lawful Commands, are the

Practice,

ractice, the Glory, and the indiſpenſible Duties of Soldier; whatever Faults we may have, the Faults f Republicans, are not, I preſume, of the Number.

THE Inhabitants of *North America*, on the con-ary, are in general refractory and intractable; their Manners, Opinions, and Principles Republican. And o Wonder they are ſo. The great Maſters in the cience of Government whom I have mentioned, ave taught already much too long, and with too uch Credit, in the Schools of this Country; the cholars have eclipſed the Luſtre of their Maſters; ho are become as uſeleſs, in the Library of an *Ame-ican*, as in the Wigwams of *Onondago* or *Oneida*.

FROM the flattering Theories and Syſtems of theſe nd other Philoſophers of the ſame Sect, and from e general Relaxation of the Powers of Government ver diſtant Colonies; we are, in my Opinion, to ace the Principles of the Men of Senſe, Honour, nd Virtue, who are real, not pretended Patriots.

IF a plain Soldier, perſonally acquainted with any of them, and ſincerely loving and reſpecting em, might preſume to hint the leaſt Advice, on is alarming Occaſion; he would entreat them to onſider, whether there be not ſome Truth in this, and hether it might not be worth their while to recol-ect when, and upon what Occaſions, theſe celebrated uthorities appeared.

HARRINGTON's Oceana, a Work of extraordi-ary Genius, but an impracticable Syſtem, was roduced at a Time, when all Orders of the State ere diſſolved; when no Authority was left, but e Authority of the Sword; when Fathers, Sons, rothers and Friends, had glutted their ſullen Ven-eance on each other. When their Country had been avaged by a long deſtructive War, and covered ith the Blood of its Natives. In the midſt of theſe orrible Convulſions, *Harrington*, with many other en of Genius, weary of a Contention to which they

they ſaw no End, after changing a weak, miſguided and arbitrary Monarch, whom they contemned, and whom *Harrington* nevertheleſs lived to lament, for a magnanimous Tyrant, at the very Sound of whoſe Name they trembled, wiſhed to reſtore Repoſe to their miſerable Country, and if poſſible, on the Baſis of ideal Liberty; but unhappily they miſtook Reading for Practice, Viſions for Realities; their fanciful Notions of Mankind, for the true Character of Mankind; they finiſhed as they had begun; and as the profound and virtuous *Monteſcue* obſerves, "they looked "every where for a Republick, but found it no "where; they wiſhed to build *Calcedonia*, with the "Banks of *Conſtantinople* before their Eyes."

On its former Banks notwithſtanding, the ancient Fabrick of the *Britiſh* Conſtitution, was rebuilt at the Reſtoration, by the irreſiſtible and ſalutary Force of Habit and Opinion; in Spite of ſplendid and promiſing Theories, the wretched Remains of the Inhabitants, remembered, that they had been uneaſy and diſcontented, under the Abuſes of Government. But they were at laſt convinced from fatal Experience, that even the worſt Government was a Paradiſe, compared with an Anarchy.

Mr. Locke's Treatiſe on Government was written expreſsly to defend a Revolution, not to effect One. To account for the Exceſs of his Principles, it is neceſſary to read the Hiſtory of his Life; it was written in one of thoſe Seaſons, when the wiſeſt Men miſtake their Reſentments and their Paſſions for their Reaſon. The moſt improper of all Seaſons to give a Theory, the Authority of Laws; and notwithſtanding, that is has ever been the Palladium of our good Friends the old Whigs, and quoted by them with the ſame Emphaſis, that the learned in the Laws quote my Lord *Coke*, and that Gentlemen of Curioſity, and good Taſte cite *Blackſtone*, with all his very ſingular Merit; it is perhaps, but little better, than

a very

very ingenious maſterly party Pamphlet, written ot to innovate, but to confirm, what was already ſtabliſhed. To *Jacobites*, to *Non-Jurors*, to Men who had been educated, and tramelled conſcientiuſly, in the fooliſh Doctrines of *Jus divinum*, ndefeaſible hereditary Right, Non-Reſiſtance, Paſſive-Obedience, and the reſt of the abominable Nonſenſe, nd Jargon of ſyſtematick Slavery. It was deſigned s an Antidote to the Poiſon of the Decrees of *Oxford*, nd the Doctrines of *Hobbes* and *Filmer*. Doctrines owever incredible it may appear to moſt of the Inabitants of this free Country, that once made the olitical Creed of half the ableſt Heads, of an enghtened Nation, and were as faſhionable, and oraulous then as the Doctrine of an original expreſs ompact is now; thank God, they have been long nce exploded and forgotten, and are hardly to be ound, even in the Gloom of a College.

Mr. Locke's Theory has hitherto had a better ate, but the Conduct of *America*, begins to diſcover s Weakneſſes, to its Admirers, and gives but too uch Occaſion to its Enemies, to call it by a much orſe Name than it deſerves; it ſeems to have been ver, a Vanity inſeparable, from almoſt all Framers f Syſtems, from the Syſtem of Atoms, *Tourbillons* limate, *&c.* to attempt to reconcile Things, by ature incompatible, and to cry out with *Monteſcue*, every Thing ſubmits to my Principles." All that oats on the ſurrounding Surface of their Imagina-on, however heterogeneous, is drawn in by the pro-ound Vortex.

The Principles of Mr. *Locke*, are noble, bene-olent, and in general true, or ought to be ſo; but he Application of them to particular Caſes, is wild nd Utopian; even in Idea and in Practice, dangerous o the extremeſt Degree. Adopted in private Life, ey would introduce perpetual Diſcord; in the State erpetual Anarchy. The leaſt Failure in the recipro-

cal Duties of Worſhip and Obedience in the matrimonial Contract, would juſtify a Divorce. In the political Compact, the ſmalleſt Defect in the Prince, a Revolution. Now I cannot think ſo ill of this Country, as to believe there are many People in it, like the Men *Swift* ſpeaks of, who uſed to ſwear "the "more Revolutions the better." The Web is too finely ſpun, for common Uſe; ſubject every Moment to be torn in Pieces, even by the gentleſt Hand; and fit only for the Cabinets of the Curious.

If there was ever a formal expreſs Compact, between a Prince and a People, it was at the glorious Revolution. If there was ever a patriot Prince, and a patriot People, it was then. Yet the Compact, if we may believe his Friend and Hiſtorian *Burnet*, was no ſooner made, than it was broken, by all the Parties to it, nor could it have happened otherwiſe. Government, according to Mr. *Locke*, was of Courſe diſſolved, or might have been ſubverted, with a ſafe Conſcience, if *Chaos might have come again.* And Men were at Liberty, to return if they pleaſed, to the State of Nature from whence they originally came.

Our Anceſtors, were wiſer, thank God, than to take him at his Word. They and their Poſterity have continued ſo. And it is from the very Moment of that happy Era, that we date the Freedom of the *Britiſh* Conſtitution, at leaſt, the Enjoyment of it. Theſe Diſciples of Mr. *Locke*, who complain of the Breach of Compact, and think themſelves conſcientiouſly abſolved from all Allegiance to the ſupreme Power; are many of them, Members of the provincial ſupreme Power of their reſpective Colonies, and have entered into a Compact too, with their People. Their People reaſon as their Betters are too apt to do. They know, or which anſwers all the ſame Purpoſes, they think they know, how this Act came to be paſſed; why that was thrown out; how

uch a Gentleman got the Government; the other a eat in the Council. How much it coſt Mr. Such-a-One, and Mr. Such-a-One, the laſt Election; that his Thing is done, or not done; to make Intereſt gainſt the next; why this Employment was given o this Man, that to the other Man.

According to the great Mr. *Locke*, according to he Reaſonings and Examples of their Betters, they ry out, "what is this but to cut up Govern- ment by the Roots, and poiſon the very Fountain of publick Security."

THE original Compact is broken, we are abſolved from all Allegiance. The Friends of Liberty are deſired to meet, &c. &c. &c. They can read, and write too; they have the venerable Volume of *American* Reſolves and State Papers before them, and will ſoon turn the Artillery of Mr. *Locke*, againſt their Maſters; they have begun already.

In a very few Weeks perhaps, the Men who hold the Plough, who tug at the Oar, who handle the Axe and the Sledge, who black their Shoes, may have their Turn too; and the affrighted Senator may be glad to eſcape the Rage of the Tylers and Cades of *America*, and fly for Protection, even into the City of *Hobbes*, into the Jaws of the Monſter *Leviathan*.

I do not pretend to ſee farther than my Neighbours, but in the moral, as in the natural World, there are certain Cauſes, which invariably produce certain Effects. The eſtabliſhed Axioms of both, are diſcoverable by Hiſtory and Experiment. Now the moſt ſuperficial Knowledge of the firſt, is in my Opinion, ſufficient to convince any Man, that ſome ſignal Calamity, is at this very Moment impending over this once happy Country. He may without being a Coward foreſee it, under the Dominion of the brutal and barbarous Rabble, or their defence-

leſs Towns, the eaſy Prey of a Fleet from *Toulon*, *Ferrol*, or *Algiers*.

It is not yet too late, for the greater Part of the Colonies to recede.

We have many of us lived in the Pleaſures of their Society, ſhared in the Hoſpitality of their Tables, and in the Offices of their Friendſhip. We have been long good Friends, may we ever remain ſo. Let us hope that they will remember, there is a golden Mean in every Thing, in Liberty, even in Virtue itſelf; that the Fit of Peeviſhneſs and Paſſion will ſubſide, before it is too late, and give Place to ſober and cool Reflection; and that the delightful Current of Peace and Tranquillity, may return once more into its old Channel.

Would to God we could form the ſame Hopes, for the deluded Inhabitants of *New-England*; but they have already advanced too far to retreat; the Sword is ſuſpended over their Heads by a ſingle Hair, and nothing but the immediate Hand of Heaven, can avert the Miſery that awaits them.

Attempts have been long made, in vain, to untie the Knot. It muſt be left or cut. The Skill of the acuteſt Politicians, has been baffled; it will ſoon be conſigned, to the Hands of the ſtout *Ajax*, the honeſt Grenadier. The ſelf devoted People, are doomed to Puniſhment; it may be in the Power of even the youngeſt Subalterns among us, on many Occaſions, to make that Puniſhment, no greater than it is deſigned to be.

It is for this Reaſon, brother Officers, Friends, Companions, and fellow Soldiers, that I preſume to addreſs myſelf to you. To you, Gentlemen, the gallant Defenders of the Property, Liberty, and Lives of your fellow Citizens, with whom, in Spite of Calumny, you are inſeparably united in one common Intereſt. And to whom you are allied, by Birth, Education, Religion, Laws, Principles and Manners; by

y all the Attachments and Endearments of Man-
ind. Not the Janniſſaries of a Deſpot, or the preto-
ian Cohorts of an Uſurper, but the free Servants
f a free State, of a limited, and virtuous Monarch.
he undegenerate Succeſſors, or Members of that
iſtinguiſhed Order of Men, whoſe Conduct, after the
xperience of more than a Century has falſified the
redictions of the timid, and the factious, whoſe
rms, have been invariably employed, not in invading
ut in defending the free Conſtitution of their Country,
nd on one memorable Occaſion, even againſt the
rince himſelf.

Whose Courage has been felt, and is reſpected in
very Part of the Globe. Has extended every where,
he Dominions of the State in War. And in Peace
as hitherto, until this melancholy Occaſion, preſerved
he Laws of the Land, from becoming a dead and
neffectual Letter. A Service the moſt Important of
ll to the Intereſts of your fellow Citizens, to the
appineſs of all Men, to the miſerable *Maſſachuſetts*
ſelf. And altho' we

Might wiſh the Taſk had been aſſign'd,
To Spirits of leſs gentle Kind.

t is nevertheleſs, a Duty we owe to God, to our Coun-
ry, to our King, to our own Honour, to perform it
ith Alacrity. Our Enemies know it to be our Duty.
et us do that intrepidly, and that only, with the
ame honourable Regard to the Rules of Politeneſs
nd Generoſity, as we ſhew in the Wars of our Coun-
ry with foreign Nations, and in deciding our own
uarrels with each other. In Spite of all " *the Pride,*
" *the Pomp, and Circumſtances of glorious War.*"
n Spite of the flattering Hopes of Promotion, War
s at the beſt, but a neceſſary Evil, let us make the
eſt of it, and give the World an Example, that the
len, who are ſometimes called by the invidious
ames of Hirelings and Mercenaries, know how to
venge the Cauſe of the Publick, without the Mea-
neſs of private Animoſity, or of perſonal Revenge.

To

To the Honour of modern Times, degenerate as they are called by Men, who know little of other Times. War is become a mere Sport and Amuſement, compared with the Ferocity, and Cruelty recorded in every Page of Hiſtory; from the Old Teſtament, down to *Davila* and *Thuanus*. By the humanizing Intercourſe of Commerce, and the free Communication of the liberal Arts and Sciences, Men are become much better acquainted with each other; and have at laſt diſcovered, that Nations, like individuals, have their Defects and their Excellencies; that their particular Vices, are often compenſated, by ſome peculiar Virtues; that a Man may be a Foreigner, without being a Barbarian. And that as the good Citizen of a State owes Forbearance and Indulgence, to the Frailties of his Countrymen; the benevolent Citizen of the World, is ever diſpoſed to ſhew it, to the Weakneſſes of all Mankind.

Great Progreſs has been already made in the Virtues of Humanity; and without diminiſhing the Proweſs of the Soldier; it has been made in a very ſhort Space of Time, but the Reformation is not yet complete.

Arts, that have been uſed to inflame the meer Vulgar of every Nation, and of every Party, have extended their Influence much farther, than they were deſigned to reach; becauſe the Vulgar comprehends a much greater Body of People, than is commonly imagined. The trivial Circumſtances of Language, Dreſs, Food, *&c.* Even the nick Names of *Yankey*, *Sarpent*, *Taffey*, *Paddy*, *Nick Frog*, *Sawney*, *John Bull*, *Jean F.* and *D. B.* have at this Hour, more, and worſe Effects than Men in general are aware of; when we are a little more poliſhed, we ſhall perhaps diſcover, that the Wit there may be in ſuch Jokes, may as well be ſpared; that there is no very good Reaſon to laugh at a Man, becauſe he ſpeaks the Language, or wears the Dreſs of his native Country;

Country; and we ſhall leave our Neighbours, who happen to be born under a different Cookery, to eat their ſalt Pork and Molaſſes, their toaſted Cheeſe, their Frogs, and their Haggeſs, in Peace; and they will not diſturb us, over our roaſt Beef and Plumb-Pudding, our Blood, and melted Butter. There is nothing truly Ridiculous, in the Diverſity of the Manners and Cuſtoms of different Nations, tho' I am afraid, if we will take the Word of any Foreigner on Earth, it is one of the Characteriſtics of an *Engliſhman* to think otherwiſe.

We are finer Gentlemen, no doubt, than the plain Farmers we are going to encounter. Our Hats carry a ſmarter Cock, our Swords hang more gracefully by our Sides, and we make an eaſier Figure in a Ball Room; but let us remember, that the moſt finiſhed Maccaroni among us, would paſs for an arrant Clown at *Pekin*, and that *Saxe*, *Lincoln*, "*that Joy of Womankind*, even *Mars* himſelf, if we may believe *Homer*, would have made but a clumſy Figure in the Celebrations of *Oootaheite*."

Difference of Religion has produced the moſt fatal Effects of all; a ſenſible Mind turns with Horror from the Recollection of them: That ours, is not exactly the ſame with theirs, is no clear Proof of its being better, or worſe. There is no Set of Men, I believe, leſs prone to quarrel with their Neighbours about Punctilios of Faith, than we are, which I take to be a good preſumptive Evidence at leaſt, that our Religion is not a bad one.

If they pray too much, we may poſſibly pray too little; the gallant Armies on the *Danube* and the *Viſtula*, pray much more than either of us. Let us leave them to ſwear like Lady *Kate*, *Sunday Citizens Oaths*. Let us when it is incumbent upon us to ſwear, ſwear "*good Mouth-filling Oaths*, like the noble *Harry*," the Difference is not very material; in theſe Matters there is Nothing to love or to hate.

If

If there are among them Thouſands (and can we doubt that there are?) who are juſt in their Dealings, ſincere in their Friendſhips, kind in their Affections, and benevolent in their Diſpoſitions,---theſe are not laughing Matters; let us treat them as if they had ſuch Qualities, till we are ſure they have them not.

But "they are a Pack of canting Scoundrels "and d---d Rebels;" they do ſnuffle too much; no doubt. They learn it from their Paſtors, who have it by deſcent from the Anceſtors of many among ourſelves. There are many pious good Souls at home who ſnuffle ſtill; the moſt genuine Chriſtians I have ever met with, queer and unlike as they may be to us, in the outward Man, the Men of the pureſt and ſevereſt Morals ſnuffle and quake too. I appeal to the Hiſtory of *Pennſylvania*.

That they are Rebels cannot be denied; would to God it could. It is well for them that they are in the Hands of a Man of approved Gentleneſs, Humanity and Juſtice; but even Rebel (in War at leaſt) is a convertible Term, which Knave was never.

As Soldiers it is our Duty, as it is his, to reduce them to Obedience; as Men to lament, like him, their Infatuation. If there are among them Men of diſſolute Manners, corrupt Principles, or deſperate Ambition, who under the Pretence of Patriotiſm, wiſh to repair their ruined Fortunes, and riſe into Conſideration by Subverſion of the Laws, and the Deſtruction of their Country, they deſerve the Judgments of God, and the Deteſtation of all honeſt Men.

Rebellion is a Crime of the deepeſt Die, in Contemplation of Law, and in the Eye of every Government on Earth, which preſumes not to ſearch into the Conſciences of its Subjects, and therefore neither condemns nor acquits them for their Intentions, but for their Actions, in the Eyes of the

Breaſts

earcher of all Hearts; a *Hampden*, and a *Falkland*, *Cameron*, and a *Thornton*, may be equally acceptable.

CAN we wonder at theſe infatuated unhappy People? Deſcended as they are, from Men who carried their Notions in Religion, to the wildeſt Fanaticiſm; their Principles in Government, to the utmoſt poſſible extreme of Liberty; dropt in a Corner of the World, uncontroled for Generations, by the Authority of the parent Country, inheriting ſuch dangerous Opinions; by the Blood of their Anceſtors, imbibing them from the Breaſts of their Mothers, until, by the Contagion of general Manners, and by the pious Aid of the very Men who were conſecrated to inſtruct their Conſciences, in Morality and the Meekneſs of the Goſpel, it ripened into Sedition, as the immediate Word of God, as if they had heard it with their own Ears, from the burning Buſh, and ended in Rebellion. To Men born and educated under ſuch Circumſtances, excluded in a great Meaſure by their Situation, from the beneficial Intercourſe and Examination of the Effects of different Opinions and Principles; it is not eaſy to emerge from Darkneſs to Light, and to ſee the World in its true Colours. The Popularity of their old Government, and the interior Policy of their Townſhips, have contributed much to their Blindneſs; from theſe they have collected all the technical Terms in Politicks, and a huge Stock of ſonorous Words, which ſerve them for Logick; have the ſame Effect upon their Underſtandings, and a much greater upon their Paſſions. Learned notwithſtanding, as they think themſelves in the Science of Government, they do not yet ſeem to have diſcovered, that a Charter careleſsly granted, as a Matter of Indifference, becauſe it was aſked, for two or three Hundred commercial or fanatic Emigrants, was never deſigned to be a regular Syſtem of Legiſlation, for Half a Million of opulent Merchants, ſubſtantial Land-Holders, *&c.* That altho' it was vacated under the

Reign of a Tyrant, it was forfeited by the Laws of the Conſtitution. Laws however odious that Tyrant made them, as much the Law of the Land, as *Magna Charta* itſelf.

It was reſtored indeed, under a new and a happy Reign, but in a new Form, vamped for a Time; has been ſince patched up, as Occaſion required; ever at the Mercy of a *quo Warranto*, ſaved becauſe it was neglected; uncondemned becauſe it was not brought to the Bar; born to live but for a ſhort Time, and to expire in Convulſions; ſuch was this famous Compact.

The Charter is loſt, but the Country may ſtill be ſaved; the ſame tolerant and philoſophick Legiſlature that has extended its beneficent and paternal Care, over all its Subjects, from the *Ganges* to the Banks of *St. Lawrence* and *Miſſiſippi*; and has given to the whole World, an illuſtrious Example of Moderation and Philanthrophy, regards the deluded Inhabitants of the *Maſſachuſetts*, with equal Eyes of Affection, and conſigns them to Puniſhment, to ſave them from Ruin.

Let us, Gentlemen, who are the Inſtruments of this Puniſhment, act our Parts in this ſad Scene like brave Soldiers, like true Gentlemen, not like Rioters; Gibes, Reproaches, hard Names, make no Part of the Puniſhment alloted them; the diſpaſſionate Judges of our merciful Courts, are Counſel for the very Criminals whom the Laws enjoin them to condemn; theſe are not Times for Merriment and Buffoonery, let us reſerve our Wit and our Humour, if we happen to have it, for the Tables of our Friends.

Even in the Exultation of Victory, when the Laws of Men are ſilent, there are Laws antecedent to thoſe; Laws which reſtrained the Arm of *Ceſar*, and were written on the Heart of the merciful *Bourbon*. The Perſons, Goods and Lives of the vanquiſhed are not ours. Let us imitate the Virtues, which

hich have endeared the Names of an *Amherſt*, a *ge*, and a *Haldimand*, to the conquered *Canadians*. INNOCENCE, Imbecillity, Age and Affliction, have a eculiar claim to the Protection of all Men, of Soldiers ove all Men; we have our Homes, our domeſtick d ſocial Affections, as well as our Enemies, and may e Day have our Sorrows too; theſe are not "*glo-ous golden Opportunities*," even for the Scoundrel *othario*. Wars, civil Wars eſpecially, have Miſeries ough of their own; they have been often aggra-ated, and prolonged by Licence and Brutality; till hat the Wiſdom of the State deſigned for the eformation of a Part, became the Deſtruction of e Whole.

LET us remember, that the Memories of an *Alva*, *Tavanne*, and a *Kirk*, are held in Execration by all Mankind, and that the Laws of Conqueſt, exclude ot the Right of Humanity.

F I N I S.

E R R A T A.

Page 4, Line 12, after the Word *Knavery*, when it happens to be the Caſe of whole Na *alibo*' " the, &c.